## California State Journal of Medicine.

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### **EDITORIAL NOTES**

# AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION MEETING.

As we have previously mentioned in the Jour-NAL, the A. M. A. is to meet in San Francisco during the third week of this present month of The House of Delegates will begin its work on Monday, and the scientific sections will begin their programs on Tuesday afternoon, Tuesday morning being given over, as always, to the general public session which will be held in the Columbia Theatre, Geary and Mason streets. Wednesday was set aside by the House of Delegates as a special memorial day to commemorate the work in medicine and collateral science which led to the possibility of digging the canal; for the canal was dug by scientific medicine and not by picks or steam shovels. Just what will be the nature of these commemoration exercises we do not know as the special committee having that matter in charge have not announced their program at the time of writing. There will also be meetings of a number of more or less related bodies, as the American Academy of Medicine, the Therapeutic Society, etc., notices of which meetings have appeared in this JOURNAL in previous issues or will be found elsewhere in the present number. Altogether, the month of June will be quite a busy month, speaking of things medical, and any member will find it much to his advantage and betterment to arrange to spend the latter half of the month in San Francisco. Dr. F. B. Carpenter is Chairman of the Committee on Hotels and if you intend to come to San Francisco for these medical meetings, as of course you do, you had best write to him at once and secure hotel accommodations as all the hotels are now, and more especially will be at that time, crowded. address is Head Building, San Francisco.

### REPORT APPLICANTS.

Again we must urge county society secretaries to report to the State Society office the names of applicants for membership. In the last few weeks we have received notice of three new members, elected to membership in various counties, and it is absolutely certain that none of them would have been elected had the facts in our possession been known to the secretary of the local society. When a man is once in, it is not easy to get him out, and membership in the county and State Societies now means a good deal; a good deal to the member and a good deal to the Society, for any member may be the cause of an expense of thousands of dollars. The weakening of the medical practice law, which continues bravely on from legislature to legislature, will surely mean an influx of undesirables and a lowering of the value of any sort of license to practice. It will also mean, if we make it so, the vastly increased value of membership in a recognized county medical society. Keep that thought in mind.

### MEDICAL PIRATES CONVICTED.

For a long time past the Federal Government, through the Postoffice Department, has been getting evidence against a number of licensed medical pirates. Incidentally, it may be said in passing that this JOURNAL has for years held that the licensed physician who is doing wrong or practicing his profession in a disgraceful manner, is infinitely more dangerous and harmful than the unlicensed person be he Chinese "herb specialist" or any other variety. But the licensed crook is hard to get. Generally he follows some one of the several lines of quackery that have been carefully worked out by clever lawyers, and are thus held just within the letter of the law. Such as the advertising of cancer cures, for example, which particular thing was carried to the Supreme Court of California, some years ago, and it was by that court held that the quack was within the letter of his legal rights. But it seemed probable that many of this gentry might be caught through the misuse of the mails, and so that was tried with distinct success. There are still a number of men to be accounted for and so the details of the cases will not be taken up until all are ended. Suffice it for the present, that every case that has thus far been taken into court has resulted either in conviction or in the quack pleading guilty. In this work in California, the Federal authorities were greatly helped by the State Board of Medical Examiners.

### NAVY MEDICAL CORPS.

An examination for appointment to the Medical Corps of the Navy will be held about July 6th, 1915, and a gist of the requirements, etc., will be found elsewhere in this issue. Examinations are usually held at the various navy headquarters near, or in, the cities of Washington, Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Norfolk, Charleston, Chicago, Mare Island and Puget Sound.